

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 cancelled.

17. (currently amended) The inverse-emulsion procedure according to claim 30 +6, wherein the acrylic polymer is obtained by the inverse emulsion polymerization of:

- i. from about 60 to 70% by weight of an anionic acrylic monomer containing a strongly acidic functional group;
- ii. from about 2 to 4% by weight of a cationic acrylic monomer of the formula (I); and
- iii. from about 30 to 40% by weight of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> anionic acrylic monomer containing a carboxylic group.

18. (currently amended) The inverse-emulsion procedure according to claim 30 +6, wherein the anionic acrylic monomer containing a strongly acidic functional group is 2- acrylamido-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid.

19. (currently amended) The inverse-emulsion procedure according to claim 18, wherein the cationic acrylic monomer of the formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of acryloyloxyethyl trimethylammonium chloride and methacryloyloxyethyl trimethylammonium chloride.

20. (currently amended) The inverse-emulsion procedure according to claim 17, wherein the C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> anionic acrylic monomer containing a carboxylic group is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid and methacrylic acid.

21. (currently amended) The inverse-emulsion procedure according to claim 30 +6, wherein the acrylic polymer obtained by inverse emulsion polymerization is cross-linked with from about 0.01 to about 1% by weight of a compound containing two or more ethylenic groups.

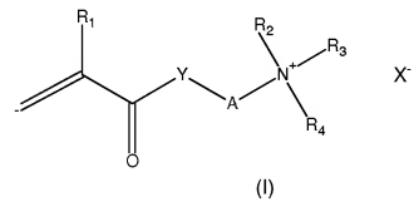
22. (currently amended) The inverse emulsion procedure according to claim 21, wherein the acrylic polymer obtained by inverse emulsion polymerization is cross-linked with methylene-bis-acrylamide.

Claims 23-29 cancelled.

30. (currently amended) A procedure for preparing a cosmetic comprising preparing the cosmetic using an inverse emulsion of Claim 16 having an aqueous phase and an organic phase comprising from about 20 to about 70% by weight of an acrylic polymer obtained by the inverse emulsion polymerization of

i. from about 55 to 76% by weight of an anionic acrylic monomer containing a strongly acidic functional group;

ii. from about 0.1 to 5% by weight of a cationic acrylic monomer of the formula (I);



wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or methyl;

R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> are, one independently of the others, hydrogen or a C1-C4 alkyl;

Y is NH or O;

A is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene; and

X is chloride; and

iii. from about 25 to 45% by weight of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> anionic acrylic monomer containing a carboxylic group;

wherein the weight ratio between the aqueous phase and the organic phase is from about 4:1 to about 2:1.